

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC Checks 11 Businesses and Two Sell Alcohol to Minors

Grover Beach - Investigators of the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and Grover Beach Police Officers have cited two clerks for selling alcohol to a minor during a January 9, 2009 enforcement operation. The actions were the result of a compliance check operation in which minors under the direct supervision of the investigators, attempted to purchase alcohol from 11 retail licensees in the city of Grover Beach.

The persons who sold to a minor face a minimum fine of \$250, and/or 24 to 32 hours of community service for a first violation. In addition, ABC will take administrative action against the alcoholic beverage license of the businesses that sold alcohol to minors. That may include a fine, a suspension of the liquor license, or the permanent revocation of the license.

ABC is conducting the compliance checks statewide to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors.

Minor Decoy operations have been conducted by local law enforcement throughout the state since the 1980's. In 1994, the California Supreme Court ruled unanimously that use of underage decoys is a valid tool of law enforcement to ensure that liquor licensees are complying with the law.

ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Agency Secretary Dale E. Bonner, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.